



Cattle on Feed

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United States Cattle on Feed Down 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on April 1, 2023. The inventory was 4 percent below April 1, 2022. The inventory included 7.12 million steers and steer calves, down 6 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 61 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.50 million head, down 2 percent from 2022.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.99 million head, 1 percent below 2022. Net placements were 1.94 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 390,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 310,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 540,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 517,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 175,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 60,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.98 million head, 1 percent below 2022.

Other disappearance totaled 53,000 head during March, unchanged from 2022.

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: April 1, 2022 and 2023

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed March 1	12,193	11,650	96
Placed on feed during March	2,005	1,992	99
Fed cattle marketed during March	2,000	1,977	99
Other disappearance during March	53	53	100
On feed April 1	12,145	11,612	96

Cattle on Feed Inventory, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: March 1, 2022 and 2023

Item	2022	2023	Percent of previous year
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
On feed February 1	12,209	11,704	96
Placed on feed during February	1,868	1,738	93
Fed cattle marketed during February	1,825	1,734	95
Other disappearance during February	59	58	98
On feed March 1	12,193	11,650	96

Cattle on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States: April 1, 2022 and 2023

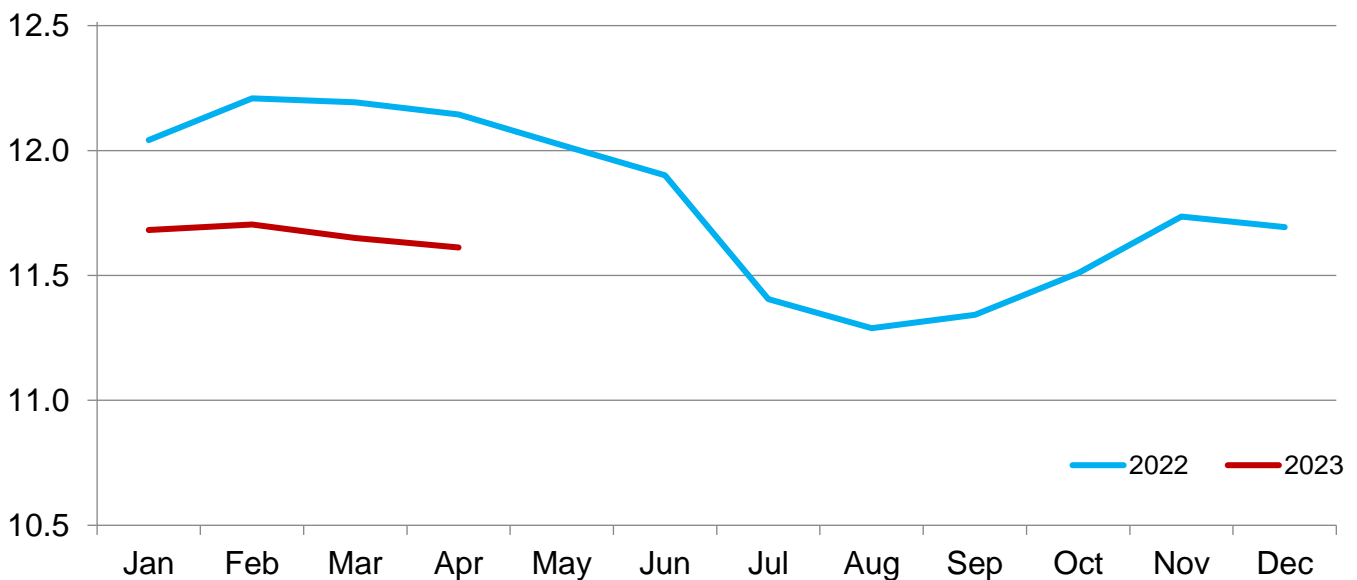
Item	2022	2023	Percent of	
			previous year	inventory
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Class on feed April 1				
Steers and steer calves	7,570	7,117	94	61
Heifers and heifer calves	4,575	4,495	98	39

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	April 1, 2022	March 1, 2023	April 1, 2023		
			Inventory	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	285	260	257	90	99
California	565	520	525	93	101
Colorado	1,100	1,010	980	89	97
Idaho	305	325	320	105	98
Iowa	620	620	620	100	100
Kansas	2,510	2,460	2,430	97	99
Minnesota	100	95	95	95	100
Nebraska	2,660	2,530	2,530	95	100
Oklahoma	290	270	260	90	96
South Dakota	230	215	220	96	102
Texas	2,950	2,780	2,810	95	101
Washington	225	255	255	113	100
Other States	305	310	310	102	100
United States	12,145	11,650	11,612	96	100

Cattle on Feed Inventory on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head

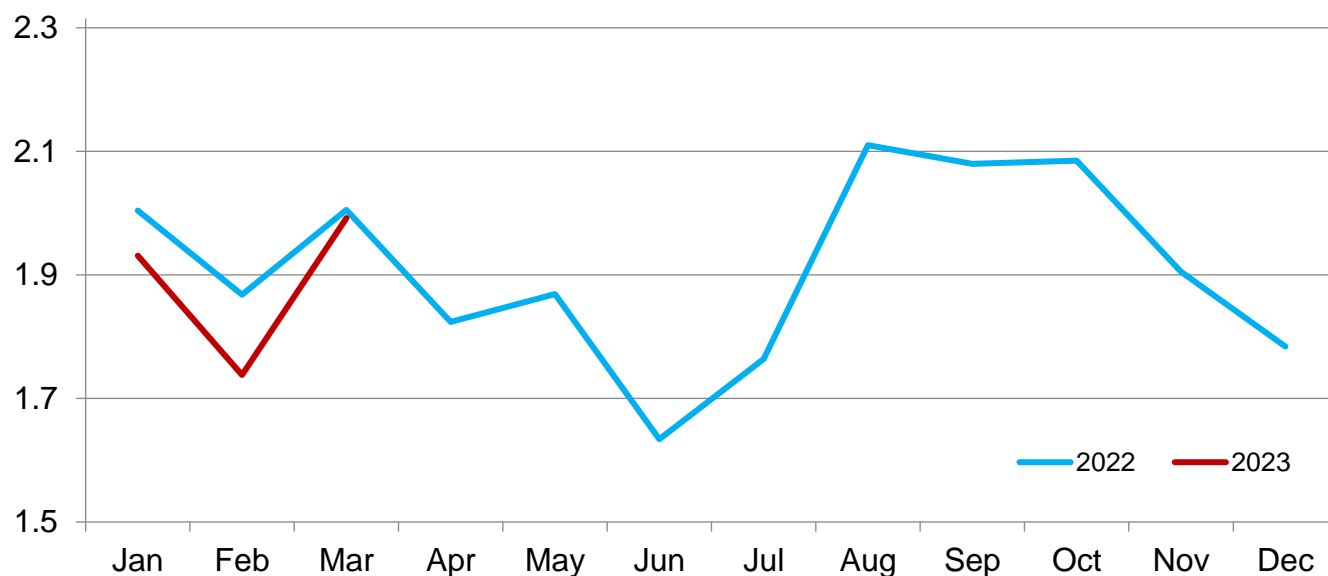


Cattle Placed on Feed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During March 2022	During February 2023	During March 2023		
			Placements	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	31	23	28	90	122
California	69	59	73	106	124
Colorado	180	140	165	92	118
Idaho	37	36	37	100	103
Iowa	110	105	109	99	104
Kansas	490	425	460	94	108
Minnesota	15	14	15	100	107
Nebraska	470	435	470	100	108
Oklahoma	45	26	43	96	165
South Dakota	35	37	44	126	119
Texas	435	360	455	105	126
Washington	37	36	40	108	111
Other States	51	42	53	104	126
United States	2,005	1,738	1,992	99	115

Cattle Placed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States

Million head



Cattle Placed on Feed by Weight Group on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots and Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During March 2022							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	35	30	45	45	25	(D)	(D)	180
Kansas	45	75	160	150	60	(D)	(D)	490
Nebraska	30	65	130	150	95	(D)	(D)	470
Texas	150	100	95	70	20	(D)	(D)	435
Other States ...	120	60	105	105	40	(D)	(D)	430
United States ..	380	330	535	520	(X)	180	60	2,005

State	During February 2023							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	25	25	35	35	20	(D)	(D)	140
Kansas	45	75	145	115	45	(D)	(D)	425
Nebraska	30	65	130	140	70	(D)	(D)	435
Texas	145	80	75	50	10	(D)	(D)	360
Other States ...	105	70	85	83	35	(D)	(D)	378
United States ..	350	315	470	423	(X)	130	50	1,738

State	During March 2023							
	Under 600 lbs	600-699 lbs	700-799 lbs	800-899 lbs	900+ lbs ¹	900-999 lbs	1,000+ lbs	Total
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)
Colorado	30	25	40	45	25	(D)	(D)	165
Kansas	50	70	150	135	55	(D)	(D)	460
Nebraska	30	60	135	150	95	(D)	(D)	470
Texas	160	95	105	75	20	(D)	(D)	455
Other States ...	120	60	110	112	40	(D)	(D)	442
United States ..	390	310	540	517	(X)	175	60	1,992

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

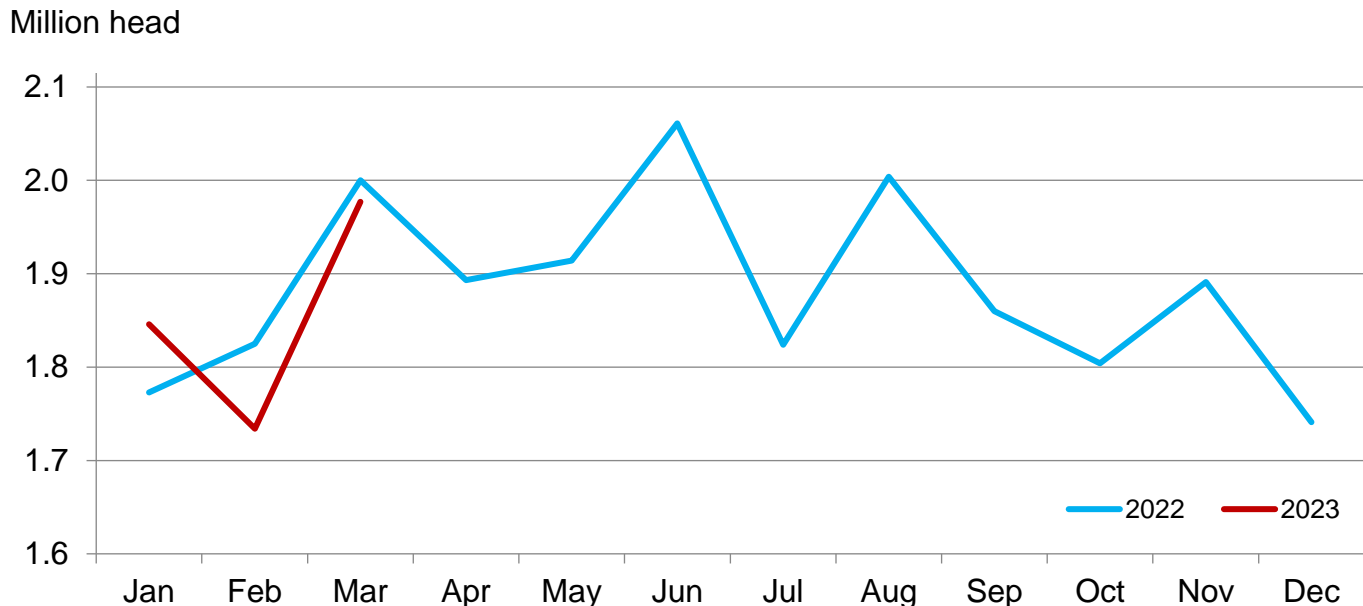
(X) Not applicable.

¹ The 900 pounds and greater weight group is the sum of 900-999 pounds and 1,000 pounds and greater weight groups.

Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During March 2022	During February 2023	During March 2023		
			Marketings	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	28	26	30	107	115
California	58	52	61	105	117
Colorado	195	155	190	97	123
Idaho	41	35	41	100	117
Iowa	108	103	107	99	104
Kansas	480	405	480	100	119
Minnesota	14	13	14	100	108
Nebraska	490	460	460	94	100
Oklahoma	54	30	52	96	173
South Dakota	37	35	37	100	106
Texas	415	340	415	100	122
Washington	31	35	39	126	111
Other States	49	45	51	104	113
United States	2,000	1,734	1,977	99	114

Cattle Marketed on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots – United States



Cattle Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Month – States and United States: 2022 and 2023

State	During March 2022	During February 2023	During March 2023		
			Other disappearance	Percent of previous year	Percent of previous month
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(percent)
Arizona	1	1	1	100	100
California	6	7	7	117	100
Colorado	5	5	5	100	100
Idaho	1	1	1	100	100
Iowa	2	2	2	100	100
Kansas	10	10	10	100	100
Minnesota	1	1	1	100	100
Nebraska	10	15	10	100	67
Oklahoma	1	1	1	100	100
South Dakota	3	2	2	67	100
Texas	10	10	10	100	100
Washington	1	1	1	100	100
Other States	2	2	2	100	100
United States	53	58	53	100	91

**Cattle on Feed by Class on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots by Quarter – States and United States:
2022 and 2023**

State	Steers and steer calves			Heifers and heifer calves		
	Apr 1, 2022	Jan 1, 2023	Apr 1, 2023	Apr 1, 2022	Jan 1, 2023	Apr 1, 2023
	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)	(1,000 Head)
Arizona	280	257	247	5	10	10
California	470	435	440	95	80	85
Colorado	655	580	545	445	460	435
Idaho	170	165	175	135	155	145
Iowa	470	465	475	150	155	145
Kansas	1,370	1,270	1,330	1,140	1,120	1,100
Minnesota	85	80	80	15	15	15
Nebraska	1,680	1,600	1,650	980	1,000	880
Oklahoma	160	150	145	130	125	115
South Dakota	145	125	135	85	85	85
Texas	1,770	1,560	1,560	1,180	1,210	1,250
Washington	120	150	140	105	115	115
Other States	195	195	195	110	120	115
United States	7,570	7,032	7,117	4,575	4,650	4,495

Terms and Definitions of Cattle on Feed Estimates

Cattle on feed are steers and heifers being fed a ration of grain, silage, hay and/or protein supplement for slaughter market that are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. It excludes cattle being "backgrounded only" for later sale as feeders or later placement in another feedlot.

Placements are steers and heifers put into a feedlot, fed a ration which will produce a carcass that will grade select or better, and are intended for the slaughter market.

Marketings are steers and heifers shipped out of feedlots to a slaughter market.

Other disappearance includes death loss, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: During January and July all known feedlots in the United States with capacity of 1,000 or more head are surveyed to provide data for cattle on feed estimates. During the other months, all known feedlots from 16 States are surveyed. The 16 States account for approximately 98 percent of the cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head. Individual State estimates are published monthly for 12 of the 16 States. Data collected from the remaining 4 States are used to establish the "Other States" estimates. These 4 States include Illinois, New Mexico, Oregon, and Wyoming. The "Other States" category represents all cattle on feed with a capacity of 1,000 or more head for the rest of the United States.

Estimating Procedures: These cattle on feed estimates were prepared by the Agricultural Statistics Board after reviewing recommendations and analysis submitted by Regional Field Offices. Regional and State survey data were reviewed for reasonableness with each other and with estimates from the previous month when establishing the current estimates.

Revision Policy: Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve month to month relationships. Estimates for the previous month are subject to revision in all States each month when current estimates are made. In February, all monthly estimates for the previous year, and the number of feedlots and annual marketings from two years ago are reviewed and subject to revisions. The reviews are primarily based on slaughter data, state check-off or brand data, and any other data that may have been received after the original estimate was made. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the *Census of Agriculture* are available. No revisions will be made after that date and estimates become final.

Reliability: Since all 1,000+ capacity cattle on feed operators in every State are not included in the monthly survey, survey estimates are subject to sampling variability. Survey results are also subject to non-sampling errors such as omissions, duplications, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. The effects of these errors cannot be measured directly. They are minimized through rigid quality controls in the data collection process and through a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

To assist users in evaluating the reliability of estimates in this report, the "**Root Mean Square Error**" is shown for selected items in the table on the following page. The "Root Mean Square Error" is a statistical measure based on past performance and is computed using the differences between first and latest estimates. The "Root Mean Square Error" for cattle on feed inventory estimates over the past 24 months is 0.3 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the final estimate will not be above or below the current estimate of 11.6 million head by more than 0.3 percent. Chances are 9 out of 10 that the difference will not exceed 0.5 percent.

The table on the following page shows a 24-month record of the range of differences between first and latest estimates for selected items. Using estimates of number on feed as an example, changes between the first estimate and the latest estimate during the past 24 months have averaged 22,000 head, ranging from 0 to 65,000 head. During this period the initial estimate has been above the latest estimate 0 times and has been below the latest estimate 16 times. This does not imply that the initial estimate is likely to understate or overstate final inventory.

Reliability of Monthly Cattle on Feed Estimates

[Based on data for the past 24 months]

Item	Root mean square error	90 percent confidence level	Difference between first and latest estimate				
			Average	Smallest	Largest	Months	
						Below latest	Above latest
	(percent)	(percent)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(number)	(number)
On feed	0.3	0.5	22	0	65	16	0
Placements	0.5	0.9	6	0	23	10	11
Marketings	0.1	0.1	1	0	4	3	9

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@usda.gov.

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Donnie Fike – Dairy Products (202) 690-3347

Anthony Fischer – Hogs and Pigs (202) 720-3106

Mike Miller – Milk Production and Milk Cows..... (202) 720-3278

Suzanne Richards – Sheep and Goats (202) 720-4448

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- Cornell’s Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS’s and other agency’s archived reports. The new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, <https://usda.library.cornell.edu>. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: <https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help>. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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